

AGRICULTURE EXPORT COUNTRY REPORT



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USDA/Global Agricultural Information Network Reports

Below is a summary of export trade news highlights, compiled by the International Trade Office.

[Animal protein supplies remain tight in Mexico](#)

Mexico forecasts beef production to grow to 2.19 million metric tons (MMT) carcass weight equivalent (CWE) in 2022, up 3.3 percent from 2021. The main drivers are solid exports, chiefly to the United States, and a recovery in domestic demand. Post also forecasts pork production to reach a record at nearly 1.54 MMT CWE in 2022, up 3.0 percent from 2021, reflecting continued strong exports to Asia, a recovery in domestic demand, and lower feed costs. In May and June 2021, retail beef and pork prices reached all-time highs. The Bank of Mexico projects that economic growth will reach a modest three percent in 2022, following a six-percent recovery in 2021 and a record decline of more than eight percent during the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020. Today, inflation concerns and overall uncertainty about livestock feed prices, foreign exchange rates, and a resurgence of coronavirus infections weigh on Mexico's livestock outlook. – [More Info](#)

[Egypt: Risk-Based Tolerance for Ractopamine in Beef Reduces Rejections by 90%](#)

For a decade, trade of beef and beef products to Egypt have been very disrupted. This was mainly due to the application of zero tolerance of ractopamine. The zero-tolerance level was not based on risk assessment and was not in line with Codex MRL guidelines. The zero-tolerance increased both cost of release and the time required to clear customs. In early 2020, the National Food Safety Authority (NSFA) conducted a risk assessment and changed the tolerance level of 20 parts per billion (ppb) for the residual of ractopamine in liver and adopted Codex MRL guideline for muscle cuts at 10 ppb. – [More Info](#)

[Philippines Outlines Minimum Labeling for Imported Meat and Poultry](#)

On July 27, 2021, the Philippine Department of Agriculture's National Meat Inspection Service issued Memorandum Circular No. 07-2021-018, reiterating the minimum labeling requirements for imported meat. According to the Memorandum Circular, imported meat and poultry inappropriately labeled based on the requirements shall be seized and subject to confiscation and disposal. Exporters are strongly advised to work closely with their local importer to ensure that expiry or best before dates are included in the labels. – [More Info](#)

[Moscow/Eurasian Economic Union: FAIRS Report, Food Safety, Trade Policy](#)

This report contains summaries of relevant decisions and documents from the Armenia-Belarus-Kazakhstan-Kyrgyzstan-Russia Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) meetings, published between November 21, 2020, and July 22, 2021, that impact EAEU food and agriculture policy. Key documents included herein are the EEC Council decision No. 102 delaying entry into force of the EAEU Technical Regulation on Alcohol until January 1, 2022; the EEC Council decision No. 17 radically reducing the number of developing countries that enjoy the 25 percent import tariff discount for exports of some agricultural products to the EAEU under its system of tariff preferences, and a number of EAEU SPS and TBT measures that were notified to the WTO by EAEU members. – [More Info](#)

India Authorizes Six-Month Extension for Compliance with the Commercial Feeds and Feed Materials Standards

On July 14, 2021, the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) extended the compliance timeline for guidelines issued for commercial feeds/feed materials (i.e., compounded cattle feed) intended for meat and milk producing animals. The extension applies to a relatively limited pool of industry stakeholders, who encountered difficulties in obtaining Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) certification/licensing during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic second wave. The new compliance date, for this group, is set for January 1, 2022. – [More Info](#)

Ecuadorian Government Lowers Tariffs for 43 Agricultural Products

On July 9th, 2021, Ecuador's Foreign Trade Committee issued Resolution No. 009 – 2021, lowering tariffs on 667 products, including 43 agricultural products. This resolution will come into effect on October 1st, 2021 and will be permanent. – [More Info](#)

Hong Kong Passed Amendment to Harmful Substances in Food Regulation

The Legislative Council passed the Harmful Substances in Food (Amendment) Regulation 2021 on July 14, 2021. The goal of the legislation is to enhance the regulation of harmful substances such as industrially produced trans fats and mycotoxins in food. The provisions stipulating the new/revised maximum levels of harmful substances in food become effective on June 1, 2023 while those prohibiting partially hydrogenated oils (PHO) in food become effective on December 1, 2023. The Food and Drugs (Composition and Labelling) (Amendment) Regulation 2021 was also updated to provide for the marking and labelling requirement for prepackaged foods containing hydrogenated oil; it is effective the same date PHO ban is effective – December 1, 2023. – [More Info](#)

Indonesia Issues New Regulations on Oilseeds

The Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) has issued a new regulation requiring Import Recommendations for soybeans, however implementation may depend on corresponding regulations from the Ministry of Trade (MOT). New social mobility restrictions to combat the spread of COVID-19 are expected to reduce both food sector and industrial palm oil consumption. – [More Info](#)

South Africa to Increase Corn Exports by 40%

South Africa should remain a net exporter of corn in the 2021/22 marketing year (MY) on excess supplies. In the 2020/21 MY, South Africa will be able to increase corn exports by 40 percent to 3.5 million tons, after the production of a second consecutive bumper crop. The 2020/21 MY corn crop is the second largest corn crop ever produced in South Africa and pushed the 2019/20 MY's commercial corn crop into third place. This means that South Africa's three largest corn crops on record were produced in the past five years, driven mainly by increased yields. South Africa exported 2.5 million tons of corn in the 2019/20 MY, up 76 percent from the previous marketing year after a 35 percent increase in corn production. – [More Info](#)

Source: <https://gain.fas.usda.gov/>